

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01

ERDA-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-11 /188 W

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R 151456Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7552

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT BAGHDAD

S E C R E T VIENNA 0302

EO 11652: XGDS 3

TAGS: OPEC, ENRG, AU

SUBJ OPEC AID FUND PROPOSALS AT FINANCE EXPERT'S MEETING

1. BOTH KUWAIT AND VENEZUELA HAVE MADE PROPOSALS FOR THE

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ORGANIZATION OF AN OPEC AID FUND TO A MEETING OF OPEC

FINANCE EXPERTS NOW IN SESSION IN VIENNA. THE FUND WAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY OPEC'S FINANCE MINISTERS DURING THEIR MEETING IN NOVEMBER 1975 IN VIENNA.

2. THE KUWAITI PROPOSAL, WHICH SEEMS TO BE MORE DETAILED AND LEGALLY-ORIENTED THAN THE VENEZUELAN, ENVISIONS THE CREATION OF "NATIONAL AGENCIES" AND "GOVERNING COMMITTEES" IN EACH MEMBER COUNTRY. THE "GOVERNING COMMITTEES" WOULD GIVE DIRECTION TO AND ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR THE "NATIONAL AGENCIES". THE LATTER WOULD ASSUME THE DAY-TO-DAY SUPERVISION OF AID ACTIVITIES AND ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.

3. THE VENEZUELAN SUGGESTION, WHICH THEIR DELEGATE ADMITTED, HAS IGNORED THE LEGAL ASPECTS, IS BASED ON THE CONCEPT THAT THE AID FUND SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES ACCORDING TO GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE OPEC FOUNDERS. VENEZUELA DOES NOT WISH THE AID FUND TO BECOME POLITICAL, AND SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT OPEC SHOULD NOT COPY THE AMERICAN EXAMPLE SET WITH AID. VENEZUELA STRESSED THAT THE FUND SHOULD BE BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST, AND URGED THAT EACH OPEC MEMBER CONTRIBUTE ONE BILLION (PRESUMABLY DOLLARS) TO ESTABLISH THE FUND. (COMMENT: THE EXPERTS APPEAR TO ASSUME MEMBER COUNTRIES' AGREEMENT TO SELL OPEC CRUDE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR TEN CENTS LESS THAN GOING MARKET PRICES.)

4. THE FINANCE EXPERTS' MEETING GOT OFF TO A SLOW START ON JAN 12. AT FIRST THEY LACKED A QUORUM AND COULD ONLY ELECT A PROVISIONAL CHAIRMAN (HE DR. AGAH OF IRAN). OTHER DELEGATES ARRIVED AND A QUORUM WAS OBTAINED, BUT SEVERAL NATIONAL DELEGATIONS STAYED AWAY. DELEGATES HERE ARE WORRIED ABOUT SECURITY, AND THEIR WORRIES ARE REINFORCED BY THE BATTLE SCARS STILL EVIDENT IN THE HALLWAYS. BUCHANAN

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